

Message Text

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TO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 232649

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, UNCTAD

SUBJECT:UNCTAD: STUDY ON MARITIME TRANSPORT OF RICE

REF: GENEVA A-587

1. MISSION MAY RESPOND TO OCTOBER 29, 1973 LETTER FROM MR. MALINOWSKI (ENCLOSURE TO REFGRAM) ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

A. THE USG IS FULLY AWARE OF THE DIFFICULTIES THE UNCTAD DIVISION OF INVISIBLES HAS ENCOUNTERED IN OBTAINING THE INFORMATION AND DATA DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE SECRETARIAT TO COMPLETE ITS STUDY ON THE MARITIME TRANSPORT OF RICE. WITH RESPECT TO INFORMATION FROM AMERICAN SOURCES, THE USG HAS BEEN AS RESPONSIVE AS POSSIBLE TO REQUESTS FROM THE SECRETARIAT. THE DIVISION OF INVISIBLES HAS BEEN PROVIDED WITH USG PUBLICATIONS CONTAINING PERTINENT DATA, ADVISED OF SUITABLE INDUSTRY CONTACTS AND ASSISTED MORE RECENTLY IN THE SCHEDULING OF APPOINTMENTS FOR MR. HANSEN OF THE SECRETARIAT WITH OFFICIALS OF VARIOUS USG DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES. THE UNCLASSIFIED

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USG HAS ALSO TRIED TO CONVEY TO THE SECRETARIAT THE LIMITA-

TIONS AND CONSTRAINTS WHICH PRECLUDE USG OFFICES FROM UNDERTAKING RESEARCH AND THE PREPARATION OF SPECIAL STUDIES NECESSARY TO PROVIDE THE PARTICULAR INFORMATION SOUGHT BY THE SECRETARIAT. CONSEQUENTLY, THE USG REGRETS THAT IT IS UNABLE TO DEVOTE RESOURCES NECESSARY TO COMPILE THE SPECIFIC INFORMATION IN THE FORM REQUESTED BY THE SECRETARIAT.

B. THE USG BELIEVES THAT THE VISIT OF MR. HANSEN WAS MOST TIMELY. HE WAS ABLE TO VISIT WITH OFFICIALS AT A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WHERE HE REVIEWED WHAT INFORMATION IS READILY AVAILABLE RELATING TO RICE AND THE MARITIME TRANSPORT THEREOF. MOREOVER, MR. HANSEN WAS ABLE TO ACCUMULATE A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF DATA AND WAS ADVISED WHICH AMERICAN COMPANIES OR ORGANIZATIONS MOST LIKELY WOULD BE THE BEST SOURCES FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION NOT AVAILABLE WITHIN THE USG. WE TRUST MR. HANSEN'S VISITS WITH AMERICAN PRIVATE INDUSTRY WERE AS FRUITFUL AS THOSE IN WASHINGTON.

C. AS A RESULT OF THE VISIT BY MR. HANSEN, THE USG HOPES THAT THE DIVISION ON INVISIBLES HAS A BETTER AND CLEARER UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT CAN AND CANNOT BE ACCOMPLISHED BY USG AGENCIES IN PROVIDING DATA. IN THIS REGARD, THE USG EXPECTS THAT THE SECRETARIAT WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE

EXISTING STRICTURES UNDER WHICH USG OFFICES OPERATE IN MAKING ANY FUTURE REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE. KISSINGER

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